

Missouri Black Expo 2003

EPA Region 7

Environmental Justice Program

Outreach Activity

Facts About the Expo

The Missouri Black Expo (MBE) is the largest African-American community event in the region. The MBE annually attracts local minority, small, and corporate business; federal, state, and local agencies; and regional community and non-profit organizations, aiming for the attention of thousands of African-American consumers. The MBE has attracted as many as 70,000 people in previous years, and has been around for 12 years.

The 2003 Missouri Black Expo was sponsored by the Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS). ARCHS sponsored the Understanding Your Health health fair, career fair, and community forum workshops. Prior to the expo, ARCHS sponsored monthly radio talk shows on health related issues, and also promoted the expo. ARCHS is a 2003 EJ small grant award recipient.

Our Participation



The 12th annual Missouri Black Expo was held August 2-3, 2003, in St. Louis, MO. EPA's focus this year was lead poisoning and the partnership we have with Lincoln University (Jefferson City, MO). The theme of the booth was Save Your Child, Know the Dangers of Lead. We used a duck game to attract children and their parents to our booth. The object of the game was to save the lead poisoned ducks, which allowed the children to win prizes. We provided literature on how to protect children from lead poisoning. The pamphlets

included information on diet, remodeling, and who to contact to have homes tested for lead.



Kimberly Jones and Debbie Bishop from the Enforcement Coordination Office /Environmental Justice Program partnered with Crystal Harriel from the lead program (ARTD/RALI), and LaTonya Sanders and Shawntell Martin (OEP) with the EPA LU Partnership.

Our Experience

Our team felt successful at the Missouri Black Expo because we were able to freely give away our literature packets. People were also interested in learning about the hazards of lead in homes. We were able to reach out to people of all ages in order to expand their knowledge about the EPA and lead issues. Overall, this event was successful. We felt we were able to educate many people in the time allotted.

- - - Kimberly Jones EPA Region 7 EJ Program

(ARTD/RALI): Air, RCRA, and Toxic Division / Radon, Asbestos, Lead, & Indoor Program
(OEP): Office of External Programs